

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...I did not know what I was doing. I want you to know at this time I believe it is unfair to tax...whether it is unconstitutional or not I do not know. I believe it is unfair to tax one entity at twice the rate we tax another. And I have other questions about LB 829. I would support the motion to return.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Before we proceed with further debate, I would like to call the senators attention to the area under the south balcony, a special guest today of Senator Eric Will is Pat Murphy of Omaha. And a special guest of Senator Beutler is Steve Svoboda of Lincoln, a Lancaster County Commissioner. Would you both please rise and be recognizes. Welcome today. Thank you. The speaking order now is Senator Wehrbein, Senator Lynch, Senator Hartnett, Senator Warner, Senator Withem, Senator Robak, Senator Abboud, Senator Wesely, Senator Morrissey, Senator Lamb, Senator Byars, and Senator Beutler. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam President, members, with a list like that, I'm going to be brief. I'd like to ask Senator Hall a couple questions, first. Senator, do you know of any other states that have a surcharge on depreciation schedule?

SENATOR HALL: None.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And if I interpreted what you said correctly, how much...was it \$2 million that the extra 2 percent surcharge on centrally assessed would raise?

SENATOR HALL: That would be approximately the railroads portion. The total 2 percent would raise about \$7 million.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, thank you. I'm going to oppose returning, and I think we ought to get on with the business of doing what we really ought to do first of all in this bill, and that is to take care of the subdivisions of government in Nebraska that are in desperate need of support, based on the property tax...personal property tax court case. I think we have an obligation to the subdivisions to provide for a source of income for them that they have lost. And I think that really ought to be the thrust of this bill. In fact, I can't imagine opposing this bill because I think that should be the overriding concern, is to provide some sort of income for them. And I